

# THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

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*"I have never known, in all the years I have been in the mission field, a weakness in the Church of Jesus Christ; neither have I ever seen successfully assailed, either by word or by pen, one of the principles of the Gospel, which have been restored through the revelations of Jesus Christ to Joseph Smith."*—SAMUEL O. BENNION.

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No. 27, Vol. 95

Thursday, July 13, 1933

Price One Penny

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## FACTS IN SUPPORT OF "MORMONISM"

PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT

I HAVE thoroughly enjoyed all the meetings that it has been my good fortune to attend during this period of three days' convention or conference of the Mutuals and of the Primary Association. I am very thankful indeed for the wonderful growth of these organizations, and for their accomplishments. My heart is full of gratitude and thanksgiving to those who have devoted their time so unselfishly in all of the various activities of the Mutual Improvement and Primary Associations.

I feel that our visiting friend, Dr. Ray O. Wyland (National Director of Education for the Boy Scouts of America who spoke immediately preceding President Grant), has not over-estimated our accomplishments or given us more credit than we are entitled to. It is very pleasing, of course, to have people compliment us, and when they do so and we feel we are thoroughly entitled to the things they say, our hearts are filled with gratitude.

I hold in my hand a book entitled *Figures of the Past*. It was written by Josiah Quincy, a highly educated gentleman, at one time mayor of the great city of Boston. He was on the committee that welcomed Lafayette as a guest of America, and he had met many great men of our country. He visited Joseph Smith, as I recall, forty-three days before the prophet was martyred.

I am profoundly impressed that the wisdom of the wise perishes when they undertake to explain "Mormonism," so-called. This man announces that he had been a director of an insane asylum, and he gives credit to Joseph Smith as an epileptic, in a round-about way, for the establishment of this great work. The passages that I will read, however, are not of the character that impresses me that the wisdom of the wise shall perish. How in the world a man could write the things he did about the Prophet

Joseph and then try to explain them in the way that he did is absolutely beyond my mental capacity to understand :

It is by no means improbable that some future text book for the use of generations yet unborn will contain a question something like this : What historical American of the nineteenth century has exerted the most powerful influence upon the destinies of his countrymen? And it is by no means impossible that the answer to that interrogatory may be thus written : Joseph Smith, the "Mormon" prophet.

We believe that no other man has begun to exercise the same wonderful influence that Joseph Smith has exercised, and that his power grows day by day. Be it said to the credit of Brigham Young, that he always emphasized the fact that he was only building upon the foundations laid by Joseph Smith ; that his ideas and his work were simply carrying on the work for the dead prophet. It is said that John Taylor almost revered Joseph Smith as one of the greatest of all the great men he had ever met.

#### ALL CHURCH LEADERS HAVE REVERED THE PROPHET

The same is true of John Taylor's successor, President Wilford Woodruff, and the same is true of President Woodruff's successor, President Lorenzo Snow. The same is also true of the Prophet's nephew, Joseph F. Smith, who presided over this Church for eighteen long years. In my heart and soul I reverence Joseph Smith as the man who established and laid the foundation and pointed the way, practically, for all that we have accomplished. Reading further :

And the reply, absurd as it doubtless seems to most men now living, may be an obvious commonplace to their descendants. History deals in surprises and paradoxes quite as startling as this. The man who established a religion in this age of free debate, who was and is to-day accepted by hundreds of thousands as a direct emissary from the Most High—such a rare human being is not to be disposed of by pelting his memory with unsavory epithets. Fanatic, impostor, charlatan, he may have been, but these hard names furnish no solution to the problem he presents to us. Fanatics and impostors are living and dying every day, and their memory is buried with them ; but the wonderful influence which this founder of a religion exerted, and still exerts, throws him into relief before us, not as a rogue to be criminated, but as a phenomenon to be explained.

The most vital questions Americans are asking each other to-day have to do with this man and what he has left us. . . . A generation other than mine must deal with these questions. Burning questions they are, which must give a prominent place in the history of the country to that sturdy self-asserter whom I visited at Nauvoo. Joseph Smith, claiming to be an inspired teacher, faced adversity such as few men have been called to meet, enjoyed a brief season of prosperity such as few men have ever attained, and, finally, forty-three days after I saw him, went cheerfully to a martyr's death. When he surrendered his person to Governor Ford, in order to prevent the shedding of blood, the Prophet had a presentiment of what was before him. "I am going like a lamb to the slaughter," he is reported to have said, "but I am as calm as a summer's morning. I have a conscience void of offence, and I shall die innocent." I have no theory to advance respecting this extraordinary man. I shall simply give the facts of my intercourse with him.

A fine looking man is what the passer-by would instinctively have murmured upon meeting the remarkable individual who had fashioned the mould which was to shape the feelings of so many thousands of his fellow mortals. But Smith was more than this, and one could not resist the impression that capacity and resource were natural to his stalwart person.

I have already mentioned the resemblance he bore to Elisha R. Potter of Rhode Island, whom I met in Washington in 1826. The likeness was not such as would be recognized in a picture, but rather one that would be felt in a grave emergency. Of all men I have met, these two seemed best endowed with that kingly faculty which directs, as by intrinsic right, the feeble or confused souls who are looking for guidance.

He goes on to tell how Ralph Waldo Emerson was considered a very remarkable and wonderful man, and ahead of his time when he suggested that the slaves should be purchased, as England had purchased her slaves, and that this would have prevented the war of the Rebellion. He said that if the retired scholar was ahead of his time in making this suggestion when the heavens were full of war clouds, what shall we say of this religious leader who, twelve years before, had advocated the same solution when the heavens looked tranquil and beneficent, and there were no war clouds in them.

We do not know what he would say, but we say he was a prophet of the living God, and inspired to point the way to avoid the great Rebellion.

I have endeavoured to give the details of my visit to the "Mormon" prophet with absolute accuracy. If the reader does not know just what to make of Joseph Smith, I cannot help him out of the difficulty. I myself stand helpless before the puzzle.

Born in the lowest ranks of poverty, without book-learning and with the homeliest of all human names, he had made himself, at the age of thirty-nine, a power upon the earth. Of the multitudinous family of Smith, none had so won human hearts and shaped human thoughts as this Joseph. His influence, whether for good or evil, is potent to-day, and the end is not yet.

#### JOSEPH FORETELLS WESTWARD MOVEMENT OF THE SAINTS

As to whether or not his influence is for good, we have had a most wonderful testimony here to-day by our visiting friend as to what that influence has brought about. Brigham Young has the credit for bringing the people to these valleys. But it was not Brigham Young who originally thought of the people coming here. It was Joseph Smith, the prophet. He was on the west bank of the Mississippi river with a chosen body of men, ready to come to the Rocky Mountains, when he made a prophecy, recorded as follows :

I prophesied that the saints would continue to suffer much affliction ; many would be put to death by our persecutors, or lose their lives in consequence of disease and exposure ; and some would live to go and assist in making settlements, and making cities, and see the saints become a mighty people in the midst of the Rocky Mountains.

At this identical time Daniel Webster was supposed to be, and perhaps was, one of the greatest of all the great senators in the United States. What did he have to say of this Rocky Mountain region, which then belonged to Mexico? He said :

What do we want with this vast, worthless area? This region of savages and wild beasts, of deserts, of shifting sands and whirlwinds of dust, of cactus and prairie dogs? To what use could we ever hope to put those great deserts or those endless mountain ranges, impenetrable and covered to their very base with eternal snow? What can we ever hope to do with the western coast of three thousand miles, rockbound, cheerless, uninviting, and not a harbour on it.



Then he goes on to say that he would never consent to vote one cent from the public treasury to place the Pacific coast one inch nearer to Boston, which in early days, as many of you know, was the financial center of America.

Apparently, Webster knew nothing of the Golden Gate harbour, and nothing of that magnificent harbour at Seattle, and others along the coast up into Canada, on the Pacific ocean. But Joseph Smith said that the Latter-day Saints should become a great and mighty people in the midst of these endless mountain ranges.

We have to-day over a thousand wards and branches, with a meeting-house in each of them, from Canada on the north, in these valleys, and clear down into Mexico on the south.

We have our £800,000 Temple here in Salt Lake City, one that cost £150,000 in Logan, another in Manti, another in St. George, each costing about £150,000. We have one that cost over £160,000 in Canada, another that cost £150,000 in Arizona, and one in the Hawaiian islands that cost £50,000.

There are many who are not aware of just what the vision of the man was when Brigham Young came here, and said, "This is the place, and we will build an empire here." Brigham Young intended that we should have an empire. What did we knock at the doors of Congress for? We knocked for admission into the Union as the state of Deseret. And what did the state of Deseret include? It included all of what is now Utah, part of Wyoming, all except the panhandle of Idaho, to the Sierra Nevada mountains in Nevada, every foot of land in Arizona, fully one-half of the western part of Colorado, a little of New Mexico, so as to take in the San Juan river, and one third of California—all the great Los Angeles section would have belonged to us. Texas would not have been in it for size, for power, or wealth.

We hear to-day of the six-state compact and the troubles over the Boulder dam and the waters of the Colorado river. Every drop of water that flows into the Boulder dam would have belonged to the state of Deseret, had we been admitted into the Union when we made application, under the direction of Brigham Young. Brigham Young sent out his scouts to all these places.

#### PROPHECIES OF WESTWARD MOVEMENT FULFILLED

I rejoice in the wonderful accomplishments of Brigham Young, and I rejoice, too, that with his knowledge, with his ideas, his faith in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, he recognized that it all came through the instrumentality of that marvellous man, the Prophet Joseph Smith.

I rejoice in the wonderful inspiration that the Prophet Joseph Smith had in prophesying that we would come here, and I rejoice in the fulfilment of his prophecy. I rejoice when he taught that—not that I rejoice in our persecution—but I rejoice in the inspiration that came to him when he said that we should not only be persecuted in a city, but that we should be driven from city to city, county to county, state to state, and that we should be driven to the Rocky Mountains, where we should become a great people. Also, that he announced that the day would come when not only a city, a county, and a state would be arrayed against us, but when the whole United States would be

arrayed against the handful of people known as "Mormons." His prediction to that effect was laughed to scorn. The idea that in this land of absolute religious liberty, this land where religious freedom is guaranteed under the Constitution of the country, a handful of deluded "Mormons" would become of so much importance that the United States would be arrayed against them.

What is the final history? The final history is that when a number of lying officials ran away from Utah and said that we were in rebellion and in league with the Indians, and that we had set up a kingdom of our own here, without investigating the story in the slightest degree, the army of the United States of America, commanded by General Sidney Johnston, came against us.

This was not a state militia, as was the case in Missouri, where the militia, which was practically a mob militia, under the direction of Governor Boggs, executed an order to exterminate us or drive us from the state of Missouri, but the army of the United States came against us. Against whom? Against the handful of Latter-day Saints who have been taught from the beginning and openly declare, through the inspiration of God to Joseph Smith, that the men who established this country of the United States and adopted its Constitution to start with, and who gave us the Declaration of Independence, were inspired of Almighty God.

The Book of Mormon tells us that this is a land choice above all other lands, and that no king shall reign here. I call to mind that I was the chairman of the Liberty Loan drive for the State of Utah, when we raised, as I remember, in these United States of America, in one drive, six billion dollars. I went to California with a certain select committee which met there with committees from Arizona, Oregon, Washington, Nevada and Idaho.

At that time it looked very doubtful whether the allies would win the war; some of the men were saying it looked as though the German nation and its allies were going to conquer. I said: "There is no 'Mormon' that has any fear that they will conquer. We believe in the book called the Book of Mormon, and in that book, under the inspiration of God, one of the writers said, 'This is a land choice above all other lands, and no king shall ever reign here.'"

And yet those lying officials said that Brigham Young was setting up a kingdom of his own, and was in alliance with the Indians to do the identical thing that, according to our own faith, could not be done.

#### THE PROPHET'S WARNING TO STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS

Stephen A. Douglas made one of the most vicious attacks upon the Latter-day Saints that was ever made by a leading public man. I thank the Lord for the inspiration of God to Joseph Smith in a prophecy that he made to Stephen A. Douglas. Stephen A. Douglas was employed by the Prophet Joseph time and time again to defend him.

The prophet was prosecuted some thirty-seven times and exonerated every time, the charges made against him being false. Upon one occasion, when Stephen A. Douglas was an obscure

country lawyer, occupying a small judgeship, Joseph Smith said to him :

Judge Douglas, if the day ever comes that you lift your voice against the Latter-day Saints, this conversation will stick to you to the day of your death.

You shall aspire to the presidency of the United States of America, and if you turn your hand against the Latter-day Saints, God will raise up a man to defeat you, and you shall die a broken-hearted, disappointed man.

We all know that the Saviour predicted that Jerusalem should never be rebuilt until the times of the Gentiles were fulfilled. But Cæsar, with his great cohorts that had conquered the world, undertook to prove that the meek and lowly Nazarene had said something false.

So he took his great army and called upon the Jews to go back and rebuild Jerusalem. We have that great infidel author Gibbons' statement to the effect that great balls of fire broke out from the foundation as they were digging there, scorching the workmen. Cæsar had to acknowledge on his deathbed that the meek and lowly Nazarene had triumphed.

Stephen A. Douglas, if he acknowledged the truth, had to acknowledge that he thought he had the presidency in his grasp. He was nominated by the party that apparently had an overwhelming number of delegates to the convention. He felt absolutely sure that he would be elected. What did he say?

He said that Brigham Young had a lot of Danites who murdered people; that he was in league with the Indians, and other things directly opposite to all the teachings of the Church, and what he knew to be the teachings of the Church. What did *The Deseret News* do?

#### JOSEPH SMITH'S PREDICTION FULFILLED

*The Deseret News* published a part of his speech, then they published what Joseph Smith had said, to the effect that Douglas would aspire to the presidency of the United States, and if he ever lifted his voice against the Prophet Joseph's people he should die a disappointed man. And he did die a disappointed man. When he was running against Abraham Lincoln for the Senate of the United States, Lincoln was requested by his campaign manager not to debate upon certain questions, for if he did he would be defeated.

But Abraham Lincoln was one of those men who always stood for the right. He said :

"If he answers those questions, as I expect he will, it will defeat him so far as ever sitting in the presidential chair is concerned." Abraham Lincoln, I am sure, did not aspire at that time to be the president. But he was patriot enough to be sacrificed and let Douglas get the senatorship.

When they were looking for a man to equal Douglas as one of the great debaters and speakers of America, they looked around, and what did they find? A man who had shown the greatest capacity to meet him and to handle him, and, figuratively speaking, to slay him in debate.

I remember upon one occasion reading in that great debate between Lincoln and Douglas, where Lincoln handed his coat to a man, and said, "Just hold my coat while I stone Stephen." And



he did stone him. He beat him for the presidency of the nation, and he made one of the greatest records as president of the United States that any man ever made who sat in the presidential chair. And he was what? The choice of God for the position, in fulfillment of the prediction made by Joseph Smith, the prophet.

Coming back to the statement that a city, a county, a state and a government should be arrayed against the people known as the Latter-day Saints, what happened in addition to an army coming? Because of the false representations that were made against us in Washington, all of the property of the "Mormon" Church, both real and personal, was confiscated. We fought it in the courts for years.

I have picked up the paper time and time again and read in bold headlines, "United States of America versus the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints," and I have laid the paper down and said: "Thanks, Uncle Sam, for placing the stamp of divinity upon the utterances of Joseph Smith, the prophet of the living God."

#### PRESIDENT GRANT'S FIRST TRIP TO NEW YORK

I call to mind that, on one occasion—the very first trip I ever made to New York in my life—I had a letter to a very renowned student. This letter was given to me by the general manager for the central and western states, of that great fire insurance company, The Liverpool, London and Globe.

I had an argument with that man in Chicago, that I will not take the time to repeat here. But he ridiculed me for believing in a religion when there were sixty million people in the United States who were opposed to it. As there were only two hundred thousand "Mormons" in favour of it, that meant that if it were likened to a jury of three hundred men, only one of them would be a "Mormon." He said it appeared to him as ridiculous that I should go on believing it with 299 opposed to me. I asked him if he believed in a hereafter and rewards for good deeds, and punishments for misdeeds? He said, "Yes."

I was a youngster of twenty-six at that time, and I said, "Do you believe that every good man that dies finds a better place?"

He said: "Yes."

I said: "I will multiply your jury by three and a third, and make it a thousand. A man is being tried for murder, and you are convinced as one of a jury of a thousand men that he is innocent. If the other 999 vote that he should be shot or hung, would you make it unanimous?"

He said: "Of course not."

"Why not, if you were convinced that he is innocent, and if there were such an overwhelming majority against you, why shouldn't you surrender your ideas?"

He said: "I wouldn't do it."

I said: "Well, then, let me bear testimony to you. Every drop of blood flowing in my veins, all the intelligence with which God has endowed me, is converted beyond shadow of a doubt that 'Mormonism,' so-called, is in very deed the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the plan of life and salvation.

*(Continued on page 457)*

THURSDAY, JULY 13, 1933

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EDITORIAL

THE WAY OUT

MORE WHEAT is being produced than the world's population can consume. Therefore, the World Economic Conference, now in session in London, proceeded at once to plan to regulate and reduce the production of the "staff of life." So far, it has been tentatively agreed to diminish the world's wheat acreage by fifteen per cent.

That should stir men into sober thinking. If there is more food in the world than the population needs, why are so many people without sufficient food? If there is a surplus of wealth in the world, why is there so much dire, ugly poverty in every land?

These questions assume huge importance in face of the indisputable fact that the direct cause of the world's present distress, discord and upheaval is the want of the necessities of life among large groups of people. In a world well fed, clothed and sheltered, it would be safe to expect a condition of peace and joy not known as yet to our cherished civilization. Stabilization of currencies, gold versus silver standards, and the like, are transient, surface problems, which fail to reach the root of economic instability, and are, therefore, at best, of temporary remedial value.

It is indeed a fact that the earth produces or may produce more than is needed for the world's creature comforts. The earth is not only fair but fruitful. In China, Egypt and elsewhere, "farmers of forty centuries" are growing bounteous harvests on age-old soils. A large portion of the earth is yet waiting to be brought under cultivation. New methods of agriculture, derived from the advance of science, are increasing the yields on old lands and revealing the productive possibilities of new lands. The earth is amply able to furnish to man, though his number be approaching two billion of souls, all that he needs for food, clothing and shelter. The earth is not to blame for humanity's material sorrows.

The fault is with our economic-social system, of course. The new system must enable every man to help produce the world's necessities and to secure of them enough to meet his individual needs. That can be done only upon the foundation of the full economic equality of man. All men if they labour with diligence should have equal claim upon the physical satisfactions of life. The world's outlook and structure must be reshaped to recognize the rights of every man to live well. Then the present-day problems will finally be solved. There is always danger in a system



which permits vast accumulations of wealth in a few hands and forgets the full rights of the many. The earth is for all.

Such mutual help and care are the message of the Lord Jesus Christ. Indeed, the full brotherhood of man was the burden of His teaching. "Do ye unto others as ye would have them do unto you." We have wandered far away from that injunction. "Let every man esteem his brother as himself," was Christ's message through His latter-day prophet. "Except ye be one, ye are not mine," is explicit enough, but selfish men have torn the true meaning from this sacred principle upon which human prosperity depends.

It is a happy omen that the nations meet together to discuss their joint problems. We pray that good may come of such gatherings. Certainly, some forward steps will be taken. But, there will be no lasting, permanent solution of humanity's problems except upon the principles of righteousness. As long as nations think only of their own advantage, no conference or convention will have lasting value.

"Is the golden rule possible of application in a selfish world?" asks the bewildered man. Certainly it is. The Lord has given no commandments beyond the power of man to obey. We fail because we do not sincerely try to practise the eternal laws of prosperity. Should we make a mighty effort, lo! a miracle would be wrought! "If ye have faith as a mustard seed . . . nothing shall be impossible to you."

"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." That is the divine formula, in the terms of which men may find their way out of the dinness of a world ruled by human selfishness.—W.

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## FACTS IN SUPPORT OF "MORMONISM"

*(Concluded from page 455)*

"With that knowledge in my very being, you ask me, because other men disagree with me, to violate the knowledge I possess. At the same time you wouldn't send a good man to a better place when, in your judgment, all of your intelligence is converted to the fact that he is innocent, even though the other 999 men thought he ought to go there, and that society should be rid of him."

He said: "That's the devil of it, Grant, in talking with you 'Mormons.' You say you know, and we cannot call you liars and be gentlemen, so we have to shut up. But I would like to give you a letter to the best educated, the greatest student of all my acquaintance in New York, the manager of this company, and I promise you, young man, while I have not annihilated you, he will do it.

I said: "I think it was David Crockett who said: 'Be sure you're

right, then go ahead.' Not only being sure, but having the absolute knowledge that I am right, it may sound egotistical for a young man like me to tell you that the more that man knows, the happier I will be to present your letter.

"What little knowledge I have, I have gained on the wing, figuratively speaking. I went into an office as a boy of fifteen, and I find that in associating with wise men, I learn something; and that by associating with people who do not know as much as I do—and what I know is little—I do not gain much. So I will be delighted to take the letter."

He said: "I warrant you that he will annihilate you."

#### PRESIDENT GRANT PRESENTS LETTER

I presented my letter. The gentleman read it. He was sitting down at the time, and he jumped up and shook hands with me like a long lost brother, and said: "Young man, I am delighted to meet a 'Mormon.' I have been wanting to meet a 'Mormon' for twenty long years. I have read your history. I want to say to you, young man, in my judgment more is being done to improve mankind, morally, intellectually and spiritually in Utah than in any other spot on the globe."

I thought to myself, "Old gentleman, go ahead with your annihilation, I am enjoying it immensely."

I sat there and chatted with that gentleman for two long hours. I tried to go two or three times, but each time he said: "Have you an appointment?" and I said, "No." He said: "Keep your seat, then, I have been wanting to meet a 'Mormon' for twenty years."

We talked and talked and finally, when it was lunch time, he took me to lunch; and then he said: "Come back, I am not through yet."

I went back with him again to his office and finally, just before leaving, I thought I would apply my Chicago friend's arguments to him. I will only quote one of them.

I said: "I am astonished that you should arrive at this conclusion about the 'Mormons.' There are only two hundred thousand 'Mormons' in the United States, and there are sixty millions of other people. It takes five times two hundred thousand to make a million, and then you have got to multiply that by sixty; and if there are three hundred on each jury two hundred ninety-nine would be opposed to each one of the 'Mormons.' How in the world you arrived at your conclusion I cannot understand. Think of the United States, and then think also of the whole wide world being opposed to us," and I put my arms out as far as they could reach.

He said, "Well, Mr. Grant, have you been a student of history?"

I said: "I am ashamed to say I have not."

"Have you ever traveled much?"

I said: "This is my first trip east."

He said: "Well, if you were a student or a traveller, you would not make the ridiculous statement that we are not to accept a thing because the majority are opposed to it. I want to say to you, young man, that that is why I investigated the 'Mormon' religion and its history. I found that all the other religions

seemed to be opposed to you and could say nothing but bad about you."

#### ALL GREAT ADVANCEMENTS RIDICULED AT THE INCEPTION

I defy any student to point to any advancement in art, literature, science, religion, or invention that was not ridiculed to start with. When Galileo announced that the earth revolved, what did they do with him? They sentenced him to death, and then, thinking it was too bad to kill the poor old fellow on this flat earth, they finally let him go, upon his pledging himself that he would not talk about the earth revolving. But he could not keep the truth back, and he taught it privately.

They passed sentence on him to the effect that he must lie down in front of the church so that all could step on him as they came out from worshipping God on a solid earth that did not move. If it turned around once we would all fly off it, according to the idea then. After the last one had stepped on Galileo he got up and said, "Well, it goes round just the same."

My friend said: "The Saviour Himself was crucified, and I want you to know, Mr. Grant, that majorities to start with always go wrong."

About a year or two after that, I gave a letter to the late Junius F. Wells, the man called by the Prophet Brigham Young to be the organizer of our Mutual Improvement Associations, introducing him to the Chicago man, and asking him in turn to give Junius a letter of introduction to the New York man.

After Junius had had an interview with my friend in New York, the man wrote to the manager in Chicago and said: "Young 'Mormon' number two has arrived. If you have any more 'Mormon' friends like Junius F. Wells and Heber J. Grant, do not ever let them pass me by. I never met two young men that I have enjoyed more."

The Chicago man wrote to me and said: "What did you do to capture the New York man so perfectly?"

That was in the days before we wrote on typewriters. Maybe you think I did not enjoy writing with pen, page after page, and page after page, telling him what I did, namely, "to allow him to annihilate all of your arguments, so that the next time I meet you and your kind, instead of having to bear my testimony to you of my knowledge of the divinity of the work in which we are engaged, I will simply point you to history.

"I shall never get over being grateful to you for giving me the letter to this gentleman, because now I won't simply have to say I know the Gospel is true; but, when men use the ridiculous argument that, because a majority are opposed to something, that thing should be discarded, I will have something to hit back with."

Coming back again to the predictions of Joseph Smith and to this man's analysis of him. Some years later I was in New York—and by the way the man in New York to whom I have referred, made me pledge myself that I would never go to New York without visiting him. He did not need to ask me to do that, I was only too willing to visit him. I went to New York every year from 1883 to 1893, and then after 1893 I did not have anything to go with. I got caught in the panic and everything I had and more, too,

went by in a hurry. But when I went back to New York three or four years later, as I recall it, he said:

"Well, Grant, I see the majority has gone wild in the Congress of the United States and have confiscated all your property, both real and personal. But thank the Lord for that intelligent minority that stood up and fought for you. They will come out on top, I have no doubt about it.

#### SAINT'S SERVICE TO EARLY TRAVELLERS RECOGNIZED

"You know what the United Saints ought to do for you 'Mormons,' instead of confiscating your property? They ought to give you a bounty. They ought to make a great advance of money to you people for saving the lives, in early days, of all those gold-seekers who would have starved to death, but for what they were able to buy in the Rocky Mountains. You ought to have a bounty for what you have accomplished, instead of having your property confiscated."

A year or two later, when we got our property back, and I visited my friend, he said: "Hurrah for the minority again! Grant, I told you it would come that way."

To me it is a source of the keenest delight, that during my life, in travelling as I have in many lands and many climes, even from my childhood days until to-day, I have never found anything that in the slightest degree has weakened my faith in the divine mission of the Prophet Joseph Smith.

I have never found anything in his writings, I have never found anything in his teachings, I have never found anything that any man ever knew that he taught—in associating as I have in my childhood with Brigham Young and the men who were associated with the Prophet Joseph—I have never found anything that has in the slightest degree lessened my faith and love for this man who was the instrument in the hands of God, in establishing again upon the earth the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

On the other hand, what have I found? All my life I have found first one evidence and then another that was calculated, in its very nature, to strengthen my faith in him as a prophet of the living God.

I recall that when I was a youngster, before I was married, a young man who was an infidel in his ideas was courting my best girl's cousin, and I remember that he ridiculed me for believing in the Book of Mormon. I was there to see my best girl, and he was there to see her cousin.

He said: "Why, young man, I can point out two absolute lies in the Book of Mormon, and when a man discovers a lie in a book he ought to throw it away."

I said: "Certainly. Point them out."

He said: "That book teaches that men of the Nephite nation built their homes of cement, and there has never been a cement dwelling found or discovered up to date. Cement is not as destructible even as brick and stone. It is more solid, more lasting. That ought to knock it out."

I said: "That does not affect me at all. When you stop to think of the wonderful, tropical growth down there in Central America and Mexico—those houses were all deserted and the people came up to the Hill Cumorah and were killed off—those



buildings would all be covered up with shrubbery and dirt. If they do not discover a cement house in my lifetime, they will by the time my children come along; and if they do not during the lifetime of my children, I am sure they will by the time the grandchildren come along."

He said: "What is the use of arguing with a fellow who hasn't any answer only to defer it to his grandchildren?"

What is the final result? My counselor, Anthony W. Ivins, has stood on the top of a cement monument 210 feet high. That is only 150 per cent. higher than this tabernacle building that we are in, and it not only occupies enough ground to hold eight or ten thousand people like this tabernacle, but it occupies one acre more than this whole temple block. It is 11 acres, and from the top of that monument one can see mounds which the government of Mexico are uncovering and which, when uncovered, are splendidly built cement dwellings, showing as great, if not greater, skill in the making of cement than we have to-day.

#### TRUE FAITH REMAINS UNSHATTERED BY RIDICULE

So thank the Lord for faith. Faith is a gift of God. I thank the Lord for the faith I had, that, when this educated young man with his doctor's degree was ridiculing me with what seemed to be an argument that there was a lie in the Book of Mormon, it did not affect my faith at all.

He said: "Young man, I will give you something now that you cannot answer. The Book of Mormon teaches that Jesus Christ's voice was heard all over the land by the people. You know that if you stand on the top of a house and shout, that your voice will only carry a few hundred yards. So you know that is a lie."

I said: "I do not know anything of the kind. Jesus Christ, Jehovah, under the inspiration and direction of Elohim, God Himself, took the elements and created the earth on which you and I live. If Jesus Christ knew how to create this wonderful world of ours, I believe His voice could be heard all over the world at one and the same time, and that He would know how to do it."

He said: "What is the use of talking with such a fool?"

The radio has proved that faith, a gift of God, was superior to the education of the young man.

I bore my testimony to this young infidel. I told him I had read that book through, that I had read it through prayerfully and humbly, that I had prayed to God to give me the impression whether it was exactly what it purports to be or not, and that there had come into my heart an absolute assurance that that book is just exactly what it purports to be.

I told him another thing: that I had fallen in love with Nephi, one of the Book of Mormon characters, that I had no doubt whatever of Nephi's inspiration, that he was a servant of God, and that it had made such a profound impression upon me that he was my ideal of all the characters I had ever read about in ancient or modern history, excepting only the Saviour of the world, and that he was going to be my guiding star through life.

Coming back to my trip to Europe: While I was over there it fell to my lot to be entertained, upon more than one occasion, by the gentleman who was the assistant general manager of the great New York Life Insurance company for the British Isles.

To the first dinner party he gave in my honour, he invited a lot of newspaper men and others, and told them that I was one of the Apostles of the "Mormon" Church. None of them came.

After that, he gave a dinner and asked me to invite some of my friends and he would invite some of his, as he would like me to meet some of his influential friends.

One of those influential friends had been connected for many years with the British legation in Constantinople, and had spent years in the Holy Land. I thoroughly enjoyed my conversation with him. He had been to America many times.

He said among other things: "Mr. Grant, the last time I went to Canada, I went away up into the northern wilds of Canada, beyond all civilization. There were no civilized people there at all, and we met nobody but heathen Indians. And do you know I found the most inexplicable thing in all my life? I have never seen, outside of the Holy Land, what we call the Holy Land rug patterns, which are handed down in the family for hundreds and even thousands of years.

#### THE FINDING OF PECULIAR RUG PATTERNS IS SIGNIFICANT

Do you know, I found up there in Canada, a large rug woven in coloured beads with the exact colours and the exact pattern that I had seen in Holy Land rugs? How in heaven those Indians up there, without any fabric, could weave the exact pattern that I have seen in the Holy Land is inexplicable to me. Those people never even heard of Jerusalem."

When he got through I said: "Have you ever heard of the Book of Mormon?"

He said: "No."

I said: "I will send you a copy. The forefathers of the American Indians came from Jerusalem. The forefathers of the American Indians were many of them prophets of the living God."

He said: "What? If that is true, then the inexplicable is explained."

I thank the Lord for my occasionally running across inexplicable things that the Gospel of Jesus Christ can explain. I have met many men who have said, "Mr. Grant, I like your religion, I like your teachings, I like everything about it excepting that man Joseph Smith. If you would just discard him, then I would accept your religion."

Let me bear my witness to the young men and the young women of the Church that the day we forget that Joseph Smith was the man who, under God, established this Church, then that day this Church will go to pieces. Either Joseph Smith was a prophet of the living God, the instrument in the hands of Almighty God of establishing this Church, commonly called the "Mormon" Church, or this whole thing is the most stupendous fraud that was ever perpetrated upon mankind.

May God help us who have a testimony of his divine mission, to defend him, to live up to his teachings, is my humble prayer, and I ask it in the name of Jesus our Redeemer. Amen.—(Address delivered June 18th, 1933, at the closing session of the Annual June Conference of the Mutual Improvement and Primary Associations, held in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A.)

## BEE-HIVE HANDBOOK

THE Mission M. I. A. Board announces that the new Bee-Hive Handbook is now available at a cost of one shilling. All interested in M. I. A. work are urged to procure a copy in order that they might familiarize themselves with Bee-Hive activity work. Copies may be obtained through the district presidents.

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## CHURCH WIDE NEWS

PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT, during a recent trip to Chicago, dedicated the new chapel erected by the Milwaukee Branch of the Northern States Mission. The building, a fine Church edifice, was made possible through the effort and sacrifice of the Branch members.

MARKING the site of the Old Social Hall in Salt Lake City, a monument was recently unveiled by Church Authorities. Social Hall, built under the direction of Brigham Young but a few years after the Pioneers arrived in Salt Lake Valley, was the first recreational center to be erected in the intermountain west of the United States. It is memorably associated with the early social and dramatic activities of the Church, and was used continually until 1922, when it was razed to make way for other buildings in the city's business section.

ACCORDING to a recent press dispatch in the London *Daily Herald*, British broadcast listeners may soon have the opportunity of hearing a "Mormon" Church service. If present plans materialize, this broadcast will be relayed direct from the Tabernacle in Salt Lake City through the facilities of the American Columbia Broadcasting Company, to be re-transmitted by the B. B. C. Officials of the B. B. C. have been investigating the possibilities of re-broadcasting several such typically American programmes, and are favourably considering the inclusion of the Church service, being particularly impressed with its inspirational and refreshing character.

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## FROM THE MISSION FIELD

**Arrivals and Assignments:** Elder Bruce W. Hoggan, of Tucson, Arizona, and Elder Gordon B. Hinekley, of Salt Lake City, Utah, arrived in England, June 27th, on the s.s. *Manhattan*. Elder Hoggan was assigned to the London District, and Elder Hinekley to the Liverpool District.

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**Releases:** Elder C. Dennis McCarthy was given an honourable release from his missionary duties on June 24th. Elder McCarthy began his missionary labours in the Bristol District, and was from there transferred to the office of the *Millennial Star*, where he has served as editorial secretary for the European Mission.

Elder George Hindley Curtis of the Portsmouth and Ulster Districts, the latter over which he presided, was honourably released from active missionary work on June 24th.

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**Doings in the Districts:** *Scottish*—Two special meetings, one at Aberdeen and one at Edinburgh, were held by the Mission Authorities, President James H. Douglas and Sister Rintha Pratt Douglas, and Patriarch James H. Wallis and Sister Elizabeth T. Wallis, during their recent trip to the Scottish District to attend the District Spring Conference. Aberdeen is a long distance from Glasgow, and, as it was almost impossible for the Aberdeen saints to be present at the conference, they greatly appreciated meeting and hearing the authorities during their

visit. At the meeting, held on June 7th, President and Sister Douglas, Patriarch and Sister Wallis all spoke impressively on Gospel topics, also instructing and admonishing the saints to continue faithfully in their efforts to live the Gospel. At Edinburgh, in a similar meeting on June 8th, the Authorities met with the saints and encouraged them to re-establish the branch there.

*Nottingham*—One hundred and twenty-five members of the District braved a heavy rain on June 17th to hold their District Festival at Hucknall. Forced indoors by the adverse weather, they enjoyed a programme of songs and games during the afternoon. As a part of the evening programme, the banner given to the winner of the Auxiliary Efficiency Contest for 1932-33 was awarded to the Hucknall Branch.

## A PRAYER

I PRAY that I may never go astray ;  
 Or that I shall ne'er falter in the way  
 That leads to God's most high exalted place ;  
 Or that I shall even falter in the pace  
 That I have started in the work of God,  
 Until I have been placed beneath the sod.  
 In this great effort that I make, I pray  
 That I may follow Him—in all things stay  
 Within the path that Christ has marked for me.  
 And that I ever shall more clearly see  
 Just what for me is needed yet to make  
 The kind of man God wanted for my sake,  
 I hope that I can grow and humble be :  
 For, if I have not true humility,  
 'Tis certain that I hinder my own growth,  
 For to attain perfection I need both  
 The help of God and all that I can do  
 To tame the flesh and train the spirit, too.  
 This is my prayer : That by great constancy  
 I yet shall enter God's eternity.—Amen.

—SERGE C. BALLIFF.

## DEATHS

*DYSON*—Sister Betty, an active worker of the Sparkbrook Branch, Birmingham District, passed away June 11th. President Wheeler R. English dedicated the grave.

*RUDD*—Brother John William, aged seventy, president of the Skelton Branch of the Newcastle District for the past five years, died June 20th. The grave was dedicated by President Sylvan E. Needham.

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